OIPE JC34 NOV 12 2003 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST for CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/994,755
Filing Date	November 28, 2001
First Named Inventor	Akira FUKUNAGA et al.
Group Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	Ernest G. Therkorn
Attorney Docket Number	2001-1767A
Confirmation No.	8643

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: *37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.*

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 a. [X] Previously submitted:
 i. [X] Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 10, 2003.
 ii. [] Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 iii. [] Other_

 b. [] Enclosed:
 i. [] Amendment/Reply
 ii. [] Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. [] Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. [] Other_

2. Miscellaneous
 a. [] Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).

 b. [] Other_

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
 a. [X] The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-0975.
 i. [X] RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. [X] Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
 iii. [] Other_

 b. [X] Check in the amount of $1,080.00 is enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.
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November 12, 2003

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.